February 11, 2003

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is increased to 1,200,000 bushels in this last monthly report of the season. The original forecast in August 2002 was 1,050,000 bushels. This forecasted amount is 35 percent higher than the 891,000 bushels shipped in the 2001-02 season and the most harvested since the 1989-90 season when 1,300,000 bushels were harvested.

An updated commercial tree census conducted in October 2002 and released in December indicates continued planting of

trees in Miami-Dade County. Avocado acreage now totals 6,675, up 6.2 percent from 6,288 acres two years ago.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments through January 3, 2003 total 604,000 bushel equivalents, 36 percent less than the 948,000 bushel equivalents of the previous season to the same date. A larger crop is projected for this season, 8,312,000 bushel equivalents compared to almost 8,000,000 harvested in the 2001-02 season.

FLORIDA: Estimated certified shipments of avocados, 2002-03 season,

with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through January	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments			
	Bushels					
Certified:						
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000			
1993-94	165,500	9,500	175,000			
1994-95	762,700	16,300	779,000			
1995-96	731,800	12,200	744,000			
1996-97	887,800	30,200	918,000			
1997-98	935,500	2,500	938,000			
1998-99	876,700	14,300	891,000			
1999-00	838,700	4,300	843,000			
2000-01	992,200	12,800	1,005,000			
2001-02	887,300	3,700	891,000			
Estimated:						
2002-03	1,187,600	12,400	1,200,000			

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 2002-03 season, with comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

	2001-02	2002-03 season			
Variety	Total shipments	Shipments through February 3	Remaining to be shipped	Estimated total shipments	
	Bushels 1/				
Fuerte	80,000	7,000	79,000	86,000	
Hass	7,475,000	525,000	7,151,000	7,676,000	
Other	439,000	72,000	478,000	550,000	
Total	7,994,000	604,000	7,708,000	8,312,000	

Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.